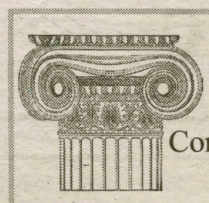
BEST OF THE SEASON

Check out this spring's athletic highlights on **page 15**.



GREEK REPORT

Affected by the Greek Life Committee's decisions? Read what students have to say on **page 2**.

CHALLAH FOR HUNGER

Addicted to Emma and Victoria's challah recipe? They share their secrets on **page 9**.

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THE SPECTATOR

Thursday, May 9, 2013

Volume LIII Number 24

Clinton secured as next Great Names speaker

by Bonnie Wertheim '14
Editor-in-Chief

Even though it was only at the beginning of this semester that we inaugurated President Barack Obama for his second term, already the country is beginning to look ahead, toward 2016. Who will our next great leader be? Some politicians have expressed interest openly, like Vice President Joe Biden and Governor of New Jersey Chris Christie, while others are merely subjects of speculation.

Of all the possible presidential candidates, the one who is probably receiving the most buzz is former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. After running in the 2008 presidential election, during which she won several primaries, Clinton went on to serve in Obama's Administration. Now, for the first time in decades, she is enjoying life as a private citizen, and it's hard to say whether Clinton will want to give up that freedom for a second presidential campaign. What we do know for sure, though, is that, this fall, Clinton will be coming to the Hill.

On Friday, Oct. 4, she will present a free, open-to-the-public lecture in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House. The lecture will serve as the next installment in the ongoing Sacerdote Great Names Series, which is made possible thanks to the generosity of the family of Hamilton trustee Alex Sacerdote '94. While the Great Names event often takes place during the spring semester, the College decided to adjust the schedule this year in order to align with Clinton's availability.

Clinton's political achievements are extensive. As the first First Lady to have earned a postgraduate degree (after graduating from Wellesley College in 1969, she enrolled in Yale Law School, from which she earned her JD), as well as the first to have maintained a career up until moving into the White House, Clinton certainly wasn't going to be a silent figure during her husband's presidential terms.

On the contrary, she made her voice heard constantly in the White House, becoming the first First Lady, additionally, to have an office in its West Wing. She played an active role in the Clinton Administration, serving as an advocate for health care reform and improvements to the existing policies surrounding adoption and foster care. Her efforts saw initiatives like the State Children's Health Insurance Program take off.

After Clinton left the White House, she continued to make history. In 2000, she became the first First Lady to run for and be elected to the U.S. Senate. As a senator of New York, Clinton made bipartisan efforts to improve the accessibility of health care. Her first term coincided with the Sept. 11 attacks, after which she worked to provide first responders with proper aid and worked to gain funding in order to rebuild New York City.

She was reelected to the Senate in 2006, but had even bigger goals in mind. Her next move was a presidential campaign, which she announced online in 2007, saying in a video on her website, "I'm in, and I'm in to win."

During the 2008 race, she was a fierce competitor, winning more primaries than any of the female presidential candidates who had come before her and taking the lead in the Democratic opinion polls for much of 2007. Ultimately, of course, Obama won the Democratic presidential nomination, and Clinton endorsed him.

When she lost to Obama in the Democratic campaign, she had planned to continue her work in the Senate. She never expected to be appointed by her former rival as Secretary of State, a position she held from Jan. 21, 2009 until Feb. 1, 2013. Clinton's four-year term as Secretary of State centered primarily on improving U.S. relations with other countries, traveling all over the world and speaking about strategies for peace in the Middle East, women's rights and economic reform.

Clinton will be the fourth former Secretary of State to speak at Hamilton for the Sacerdote Great Names Series In previous years, Colin Powell, Madeleine Albright and, most recently, Condoleeza Rice have come to the Hill to give lectures.

More details about the Great Names lecture will be released in September.

Greek Life Committee suggests pledging shift

by Kevin Welsh '15
News Writer

In a sudden, end-of-semester decision, the Dean of Students Office announced on Monday, May 6 some significant changes to Greek Life at Hamilton. An email from Dean Nancy Thompson provided a report compiled by a Committee on Greek Recruitment, outlining recommendations the group had come to regarding Greek Life at Hamilton.

The suggested changes included: moving all rushing events to first-year spring, shifting all pledging to sophomore fall, limiting pledging to a five-week process instead of a seven-week process and a required meeting with the Dean of Students Office for all prospective pledges.

The report was compiled over a few months, and the committee was chaired by Senior Associate Dean of Students for Strategic Initiatives Meredith Harper Bonham, with professors, coaches and students in and out of Greek Life comprising it. The group was chartered with the mission of only examine the pledging process at Hamilton, and sought to make recommendations in order to "quote about strengthening Greek Life at Hamilton."

The committee was formed after an incident earlier this semester with January admits being banned from pledging. Dean of Students Nancy Thompson explained that she was so surprised by the passion behind that movement and cites that as the reason behind this new committee. As a philosophy, she and the Dean of Students Office do not believe in allowing new students to undertake such a serious commitment, so they chartered the committee to reevaluate the pledging process at Hamilton.

To many Hamilton students in Greek societies, the changes may seem like an attack on Greek Life as a whole, but Dean Thompson emphasized this was not an attempt to completely phase out Greek Life at Hamilton. The committee created only to discuss how pledging works at Hamilton, nothing more.

Other students expressed concern over how the report was compiled, referring specifically to the lack of proper Greek representation on the committee. President of Alpha Delta Phi Lucas Hulleberg '14 said, "I feel as though this recommendation made by this small committee does not accurately reflect the opinions of a majority of the members of the Greek community." While the committee was only made up of ten people, six of the members were students, and four of those students were in Greek Life. Dean Thompson explained that "every voice was equal" on the committee and that "students on this committee spoke their minds and felt free to do it."

Still, President of Kappa Sigma Alpha Jess Gutfleish '14 was concerned that "two of the [Greek] representatives were seniors, so this decision had no bearing on how their experience will change with Greek Life." Committee member and non-Greek Tara Huggins '14 described the committee as "super fair" to all voices, and commended the group for "being able to put aside their personal experiences for the future of the College."

Besides hearing from the committee, the Dean of Students Office also consulted Director of Athletics Jon Hind '80 and considered input from alumni, including former Greeks. Associate Dean of Students for Student Engagement and Leadership Lisa Magnarelli, who also oversees the Inter-Society Council (which consists of all the Greek presidents), was also consulted about the decisions. Magnarelli '96 and the Dean of Students Office discussed the changes with the ISC at a few meetings this year.

Besides the procedural issues, students also voiced concern about the recommendations of the panel. Gutfleish, whose sorority has 21 members, fears "losing a pledge class will really hurt us" because her sorority is so small. But, Dean Bonham expressed compassion for small groups saying that she would be "would be willing to sit down and strategize with those organizations" on how to best maintain their standing. Gutfleish also worried that by splitting rushing from pledging, prospective Greeks "may lose interest over the summer," a concern that was expressed by other Greeks at SA.

Theta Delta Chi member Andrew Nachomsen '15 took issue with the gap year that will have to take place because of the transition strategy. Next academic year will see no pledging because of the plan. Nachomsen said, "My primary issue is that there seems to be no genuine justification for the gap year period." Others shared similar concern that instead of skipping pledging during the next academic year, there should be two semesters of pledging, in the spring and fall of 2014.

While a common concern, Dean Bonham said she "felt that rush can be an intense process and pledging is an intense process" and that splitting it was "beneficial for a students academic pursuits." Dean Thompson believes that by splitting pledging, "the people who join will have made an informed decisions to commit themselves to this organization," thusly strengthening, not weakening Greek societies. The hope is that students who pledge will now be more aware of what life at Hamilton is like, and hoW pledging will affect their lives.

The decision to require annual reports from Greek organizations was included because the committee "thought it would be useful for the organizations to think carefully about the pledge schedule" ahead of time. Dean Thompson expressed little interest in controlling the actions of each organization, but wished rather to ensure that they're considerate when planning their events.

As the report spread quickly on Monday, students gathered their opinions and brought them to the semester's final Student Assembly meeting. Deans Thompson and Bonham came to discuss the report, but Dean Thompson made it clear at the meeting that the Administration was "not looking for an alternative," stating, "as the Dean of Students, I am committed to student safety, well-being, certainly education and good experience at Hamilton. And all of my decisions are about those things."

Dean Thompson emphasized that the committee met "to do what was best for Hamilton" and sought not to hurt Greek Life, but rather to strengthen their societies and improve the quality of life at Hamilton—two objectives with which we can all see eye to eye.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the Campus Safety Incident Report each week. Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

1:45 p.m.	Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
2:49 p.m.	Fire Alarm Activation – Tolles Pavilion
4:00 p.m.	Sacerdote Great Names Detail – Scott Fieldhouse

Friday, April 26, 2013

12:08 a.m.	Smoke Detector Activation—Bundy West Residence Hall
2:22 a.m.	Suspicious Activity/DWI Arrest – Miller Road
2:54 a.m.	Area Check – Minor Residence Hall
8:53 a.m.	Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
10:57 a.m.	Disabled Vehicle – Peters Lane
12:50 p.m.	Smoke Detector Activation – Dunham Hall
1:35 p.m.	Parking Complaint – Buttrick Hall
10:44 p.m.	Trespass – Campus Road
11:48 p.m.	Area Check – North Parking Lot
11:53 p.m.	Noise Complaint – Major Hall

Saturday, April 27, 2013

12:08 a.m.	Marijuana Complaint – List Circle
12:11 a.m.	Hazardous Condition – Babbitt Hall
12:59 a.m.	Area Check – Root/Kirkland Glen
1:39 a.m.	Domestic Dispute – List Art Center Exterior
8:49 a.m.	Concern for Welfare – Residence Hall
11:42 p.m.	Medical Emergency – Howard Diner
11:45 p.m.	Fireworks Complaint – Minor Field

A decade of HamTrek, recordbreaking turnout

by Kevin Welsh '15
NEWS WRITER

In its 10th successful year, Hamilton's own sprint triathlon, HamTrek, took place last Friday, May 3. The triathlon consists of a 525 yard swim, a 9-mile bike and a 3.2 mile run. The event began at 4 p.m. with the swimming heats and wrapped up after 7 p.m. with a barbecue on Love Track, where the runners finished.

Over the last decade, HamTrek has become increasingly more popular amongst all divisions of the Hamilton community, and this year HamTrek closed its registrations with 245 participants, a new record for the program. While typically held on Class and Charter Day, the event was held a week before this year. Dave Thompson, director of the Charlean and Wayland Blood Fitness and Dance Center, director of Campus Wellness and professor of physical education at Hamilton, who organizes HamTrek, explained that previously HamTrek was held on Class and Charter Day to honor an older Hamilton tradition of having a field day on the last day of class, and also to "have an alternative activity" for students who did not want to join in on the day's other festivities.

PHOTO BY SARA MEISSNER '13

He explained that with the new Class and Charter Day schedule in effect this year the organizing committee felt that there would be too many conflicts going on that day to make it successful. This year actually marked a significant increase in student participation in the event, a fact which Thompson attributes to the new date. He commented on the new date saying "it's a lot better this way, a lot more students participate, a lot more fun."

For the past four years HamTrek has been associated with the Shawn Grady Memorial Fund. The fund was created by a former Hamilton men's ice hockey Coach Phil Grady, who lost his son to cancer and started the fund to help pay for local families struggling with life threatening illnesses. When approached about involving a charity in HamTrek years ago, Thompson felt the connection to both Hamilton and the local community made the Grady Fund a perfect choice to work with. Each year HamTrek raises a few thousand dollars for the fund.

This year's individual winners were Professor of English Onno Oerlemens and Lauren King '16, and the medley winner was Team Adirondack Adventure. Professor Oerlemens, who has actually has competed in HamTrek from the beginning explained, "I've been cycling, swimming and running to stay fit since I was in college, and so it made sense to try such a local and fun event." King explained that she had previously competed in triathlons, but then "heard about the tradition of HamTrek and was excited to be a part of such a big social and community event." Thompson emphasized how the event includes so many parts of the Hamilton community noting that "you'll see your professors and administrators out there."

While HamTrek is by nature a serious athletic event, its community aspect is as important to Thompson. He believes that after a successful decade of running the event that "it's a tradition, and by having its best year—it's a good sign." Now that the event has become more popular with students, he hopes it will encourage even more to get involved for the fun of it. He believes that as years have gone by, fewer people have been discouraged by the intimidating athletic aspects of the event.

King said, "I honestly think that anyone could do HamTrek" and advocated that people who are nervous should also consider creating teams since it's "more friendly," as described by Thompson. Relay teams provide a way for people to get involved if they don't want to go it alone.

Also, for the those members of the community who do not want to compete HamTrek holds a simultaneous walk at the track every year. This year it was held in conjunction with the Hamilton Stands With Boston marathon relay, which raised money to support victims of the Boston Marathon bombings. In conjunction with HamTrek, the walk drew nearly 200 walkers.

King described HamTrek as "really about being with everyone and celebrating the end of the year with an athletic event and the environment really seemed positive and a great way to connect everyone." So whether you're a professor, administrator, staff member, student, local or alum, know that you are welcome to join HamTrek next year. Thompson joked that he hopes it is good motivation for people to stay active during Hamilton's sometimes gloomy winters.

Schwarz '66 to speak at C&C

by Jack Cartwright '15
NEWS EDITOR

Thomas J. Schwarz '66, president of SUNY Purschase in Purchase, NY, and life trustee of Hamilton College, will be the featured speaker at Monday's Class & Charter Day ceremony located in the Chapel.

Schwarz graduated from Hamilton College in 1966 with a Bachelor's degree in economics, and later graduated cum laude from Fordham University Law School in New York City, where he was an editor on the *Law Review*.

Before becoming President of SUNY Purchase in 2002, he had an impressive career as a lawyer with the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in New York City. It was at that firm that Schwarz was National Practice Leader of the Litigation Department and founding partner of the Committee on Diversity.

In 1987, Schwarz became a member of the Hamilton College Board of Trustees. He eventually rose to head of the planning committee and supervised the first long-term plan in the history of the college. In 1999, he became the acting President of Hamilton College. As acting President, according to his biography on SUNY Purchase's website, he "worked with a wide array of constituencies to improve administrative and operational functions and to secure increased private and grant funding."

As President of SUNY Purchase, Schwarz has worked with members of its community in order to attain ever-growing levels of academic distinction. He has focused specifically on interdisciplinary study, collaboration, greater communications among students and faculty and has been able to draw new resources to the college. As a result of his leadership, the endowment of the College has increased, more residences have been build and foreign exchange programs have grown to include Turkey, Singapore and Mexico to supplement the already existing programs to Spain, France and Italy.

Perhaps his most significant achievement, however, is his oversight of SUNY Purchase's reduction in greenhouse gasses. Schwarz signed the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment, "which obliges him to follow a timeline and take certain steps toward making Purchase College climate neutral," according to his official College biography. As a result of his efforts, The Princeton Review listed SUNY Purchase as one the nation's 268 greenest campuses.

President Schwarz's other notable accomplishments include being mayor of Ocean Beach, NY, being Special Counsel to the New York State Commission on Government Integrity, as well as his appointments to the Commission to Promote Public Confidence in Judicial Elections, to be Counsel to the Governor's Judicial Screening Committee and to the Task Force on Minority Representation on the Bench. In 1998 he was given the Legal Aid Society's Pro Bono Award, and he has been recognized as a distinguished alumnus with considerable career achievements with the Leonard Manning Award from the Fordham University Alumni Association Law Review. Most recently, in 2011, he was appointed by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo to serve on the MTA Search Advisory Committee.

Student Assembly Update

by Emily Moore '15
PRODUCTION EDITOR

Committee on Greek Recruitment

Dean of Students Nancy Thompson and Senior Associate Dean of Students for Strategic Initiatives Meredith Bonham visited Student Assembly to discuss another controversial administrative change—reforms to pledging for fraternities and sororities. Prior to the meeting, Thompson and Bonham met with the ISC to discuss the recommended proposals. If this system is put into place, rushing would take place in the spring semester and pledging during the following fall semester. The Committee recommends shifting pledging back a semester—essentially leaving Hamilton without pledging for a year. Students voiced myriad concerns, though many also lent their support. Among the concerns were the danger to smaller societies who will lose a pledging cycle, the cost of pledging to athletes who would presumably be playing more their sophomore year and the long break between rushing and pledging. Thompson made clear that at this time, the Committee is not looking for alternate proposals, and these recommendations are the ones they intend to present to the board.

Honor Court Appointments Confirmed

Last semester, Student Assembly made changes to its Constitution that switched Honor Court and Judicial Board from an election system to an appointment system. This cycle was the first to be affected by the changes, and students applied for positions instead of holding an election. The names submitted to Student Assembly were: Ben Anderson '14, Hillary Kolodner '14 and Kim Wang '14 (who will split the term, Kolodner taking the fall and Wang the spring), Deanna Cho '15, Will Robbins '15, Benjamin Wesley '16 and Katherine Getman '16. Ben Ligas '14 was nominated to take over as chair in the spring semester. All candidates were approved with no opposition. For Judicial Board appointments in the fall, Student Assembly intends to publish the names of candidates to the student body in advance of confirmation, so any objections can be voiced.

Proposed Greek changes pose risks

After months of discussion and deliberation, the Dean of Students Office released the final report of the Committee on Greek Recruitment this Monday, May 6. The Committee, of which Senior Associate Dean of Students for Strategic Initiatives Meredith Harper Bonham was the chair, comprised six students (four Greeks), one professor, an athletic coach and one trustee/alumnus, all of whom have a serious investment in the quality of student life on the Hill. In their report, the Committee details several proposed changes to the way Greek Life is run for the 2013-2014 calendar year: shifting rush season to first-year spring, rescheduling pledging to the fall of sophomore year and restricting pledging to a five-week period. Additionally, the Committee has suggested that all prospective pledges meet with the Dean of Students Office prior to beginning the pledging process.

We certainly agree with the Committee that the Greek system could use some adjustments. However, we are skeptical about whether delaying rushing and pledging will solve the problems that exist in Greek Life.

When first-years enter Hamilton, it is not unusual for them to spend first semester feeling slightly lost. So many people to meet, so many student organizations to join, so much pressure to achieve in classes and, moreover, be happy—it can all be incredibly overwhelming.

As a first-year, where you live on campus often determines who your friends are. Housing assignments, while often well matched, don't always work out, and if students want to branch out of the social circles that exist in their dorms, they might have difficulty doing so. The invitation to attend a rush event satisfies the first-year's desire to make new connections and opens the door for him or her to join a community outside of his or her first-year housing environment. Attending one of these events does not mean that a student has committed to joining a Greek organization. Rush events in and of themselves provide a springboard for friendships, and when students attend these events, they should be able to decide for themselves if they want to join these organizations or not.

When you enter Hamilton can also have a huge effect on how you engage with campus life. Because they join their fellow classmates a semester late, January admits face more of a struggle to assimilate into campus life. Rush events and, moreover, pledging provide Jans an easy way to find community at Hamilton.

Delaying pledging will not only directly affect the incoming first-years but those who are already enrolled here. Some societies are very small or have a very large senior class that will graduate this year. These organizations run the risk of disintegrating if they don't have pledge classes for the 2013-2014 academic year. The legacy of many existing Greek organizations is at risk here.

One of our biggest concerns is that, even if the proposed changes go through, the new rules may not be followed. Societies might very well continue to hold rush and pledging procedures, but rather than making these happenings public, they will work underground. If this happens, there will be no way to monitor their activity and, thus, no way to ensure the safety of prospective Greeks.

Ultimately, we believe that the option to pledge should be available to those who want it and that their safety should be our biggest concern.

***The Spectator* editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.**

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. The Spectator reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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Letters to the Editor

Re: Housing changes awaken apathetic students

Apathetic. It is an adjective used to describe indifference, a lack of passion or emotion: and, when used to characterize people, docility or excessive obedience.

That is precisely why it struck me as odd that *The Spectator* ran an article last week entitled "Housing changes awaken apathetic students," and confirmed this sentiment with a letter from the Editorial staff decrying an "alarmingly low level of student interest in writing Opinion articles" about happenings on the Hill.

In addition to the sweeping generalization made by *The Spectator*—that the Opinion section of their publication is chronically sparse and driven to publish incoherent tirades like that of "Hamilton men should stand up for their rights" because of the endemic indifference of the "Millennial Generation"—I take issue with the notion that Hamilton students are primarily to blame for remaining complicit in, and indeed "apathetic" to, the more recent decisions made by the administration.

As I noted in an email to Deans Bonham and Hill, the October 2010 decision to allow for gender neutral housing came not only with an email from Dean Landry noting the policy change in the handbook, but a follow-up email from Dean Hill with the subject line "Gender Neutral Housing" with a message about the "new policy change by [ResLife] that [he] wanted to highlight." Why did the administration and ResLife "highlight" this policy change, but not a similarly substantial change involving upperclassmen housing? The response I received was that, "we have always planned to publicize further the housing changes in the coming year as we plan for the implementation of first-year housing."

For a liberal arts college that prides itself on its "need-blind" admission process—a practice which reinforces the inkling that anyone, regardless of their socioeconomic status, can call themselves a Hamiltonian if they work hard enough—our administration and indeed our campus newspaper seems rather quick to latch on to the idea that we want our housing, spring concert, Greek life and sports teams to work for us, but aren't willing to do the same for it. I would point to countless examples of evidence to the contrary, but I'll just direct you to the 530 signatories of the petition calling for the adjustment or reversal of the housing changes—a body of students larger than the incoming class of freshmen whom supposedly stand to benefit from the policy changes.

If we have the *content* right, (i.e. the student body has come up with legitimate reasons as to why the changes in housing will negatively impact our time on the Hill), but got the *timing* wrong, then who is really to blame? Clearly it is the fault of the apathetic, impassionate 'sheeple' that are accepted to Hamilton, and not that of the campus newspaper which supposedly keeps them informed, as well as the administration who don't want to share their PB&J in their "brown bag lunch."

—Ben Yeo '15

Re: Alexander Hamilton, Fiscal Responsibility and European Debt

Alexander Hamilton gave his life to the project of raising the new United States to the standing of established European powers. He saw fiscal responsibility as elemental to that task. Now, Greece and Cyprus face crises resulting from dearth of fiscal prudence. What Hamilton believed holds true today: states that do not exercise fiscal responsibility do not enjoy the respect of their peer nations.

Hamilton wanted the new America to pay its bills. In his First Report on Public Credit of 1790, an assessment of the US fiscal situation at the time, he argued that the means to improving American credit rested in, "a punctual performance of contracts. States, like individuals, who observe their engagements are respected and trusted, while the reverse is the fate of those who pursue an opposite conduct." Hamilton did not renounce all national debts. On the contrary, he viewed our Revolutionary war debt as, "the price of liberty." Hamilton was not an ideologue: he knew there were causes worthy of running up debt, and situations where it was economically rational to do so. However, for America to enjoy dignified international standing, it must have means of paying the debts it incurred.

Today, Greece and Cyprus face shame internationally and difficulties internally because of fiscal obligations they cannot meet. Recent Greek financial problems are, in part, the result of a culture of profligacy in which citizens did not pay taxes while their government spent as if they did. Michael Lewis' *Boomerang*, an excellent read, documents this culture, mentioning how an overwhelming majority of Greek doctors reported incomes of less than 12,000 Euros a year. Though we may laugh at the ridiculous statistics, the consequences of this fiscal irresponsibility are less humorous. International news outlets such as the UK's Daily Mail have blamed economic conditions for an increase in Greece's suicide rate. Internationally, Greece has had to turn to the European Union to dictate the terms of Greek recovery. The problems do not end with Greece. As you may know, Cyprus recently agreed to a harsh one-time wealth tax on all deposits within its shores as part of its acceptance of a EU bailout. This tax has already harmed international faith in Cyprus as a stable place in which to conduct business.

So what? Alexander Hamilton said something about our debt, and two economies much, much smaller than ours are in the toilet because their governments spent too much. Why does this matter? It matters because we have been warned. Greece and Cyprus were unable to "observe their engagements," so their creditors imposed measures at the expense of Greek and Cypriot national respect and standing. Our government and its President would do well to consult Alexander Hamilton, as well as recent Greek and Cypriot economic history today. I hope you do not come away seeing this letter as a rant against national debt or government spending. What I do hope for is that you appreciate how both recent history and one of the smartest men America has ever produced have warned us against letting our spending push past a point of resolution.

—Paul A. Carrier '14

Thumbs Up

Macklemore on Friday: His songs will hit especially close to home when 2,000 drunks wearing sopping wet fur coats all cram into the Field House, which "Can't Hold Us."

New *Red Weather* and *The Continental* issues: they're those large pamphlets of cardstock next to The Thumbs Up Thumbs Down Tribune.

Alexander Hamilton temporary tattoos: We wanted articles 6-9 of The Federalist Papers tatted on our lower backs, but we'll settle for the man's face.

Thumbs Down

ZooMobile: do not confuse this with Paws to Relax as cuddling with a Utica-native cobra may result in instant paralysis and excessive internal bleeding.

Holi Powder is Still in Our Hair: And in our belly buttons. And in our ass cracks.

PAWS to Relax: Dozens of puppies produce less pee for custodial staff to clean up than a single dude in a tight-fitting corset at Rocky Horror.

Who Cares?

Class and Charter Ceremony: My awards: The Elihu Root Prize for Outstandingly Slow Response Time and Least Visible Flask in Bra.

Senior Week: I don't have a job or a place to live but I did finally make out with that kid from my AA trip at Senior Formal.

Class on Monday: We can all agree that the only thing worse than sitting in the Science Center drunk at 9 a.m. is realizing that this is the last Thumbs Up Thumbs Down of the year.

by Wynn Van Dusen '15, Claire Carusillo '13, Carrie Solomon '16 and Jessye McGarry '16

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

On the Committee on Greek Recruitment's recommendation:

Why is it that the practice of pledging—maybe the only act that distinguishes Greek from other organizations—warrants banning first-years from participation? I won't pretend to be an expert on it, but isn't pledging supposedly about developing ties with to-be brothers & sisters & organizations? Why shouldn't first-years partake in these activities? Ask the Jillingses: first-years could use a little team building. It seems to me like the only thing that would make pledging bad is hazing.

But Hamilton fraternities and sororities don't haze, right? Honestly, would the committee have reached the same recommendations if fraternities and sororities on campus did not haze people?

Back home in Indianapolis, the two big schools (Butler and IUPUI) both have rush and pledging first semester first year. They also have super strict rules against hazing. TKE was just kicked off Butler's campus for making pledges hop in a van and do an overnight trip. One Sigma Nu friend of mine mentioned that hazing is just straight-up not tolerated, and so his society came up with another way and found that it was actually better.

Here's my point: Why aren't people saying that the committee punted? Hazing is going to be an illegal and immoral abomination whether it happens to first-years or sophomores or juniors or seniors. I acknowledge that they suggested informational meetings for pledges. Still, the whole thing is a tacit approval of (or at least a passive wave at) the hazing practices of Greek organizations. How could the committee recommend so many changes to make hazing more manageable for students and not suggest one change that actually tries to get rid of it? It's sad that they accepted the status quo of hazing and then did just enough to piss everyone off without fixing anything.

—John Kennedy '14

Letter to the Editor

Re: Another look at divestment

Max Schnidman's op-ed piece last week made a well thought out but factually inaccurate and logically incoherent attempt to refute the logic behind fossil fuel divestment. He also greatly exaggerates the risks involved in divesting the college's endowment from fossil fuels. As an organizer for Hamilton Divests, our ongoing divestment campaign, I feel the need to clarify our position.

Despite acknowledging that fossil fuels form a minuscule share—less than eight percent—of the endowment as a whole, Schnidman nonetheless claims "our well-diversified portfolio suddenly loses its diversity and exposes itself to greater risks from other firms and sectors of the economy." However, a report published by Aperio Group LLC titled "Do the Investment Math: Building a Carbon-Free Portfolio" demonstrates otherwise. It instead concludes that, on the contrary, divesting from fossil fuels can involve negligible risk.

Schnidman follows up by asserting that "the fiscal cost of exiting the contracts would be significant" such that "divestment could make it unfeasible for many of its advocates to continue attending Hamilton College." Such hyperbole fails to acknowledge that the endowment is run by financial managers who are constantly buying and selling shares, details of which are confidential under college policy. Given such secrecy, it is impossible to assess whether or not fossil fuel divestment would involve any such costs, let alone costs of the magnitude Schnidman claims.

Schnidman correctly points out that our divestment alone would be insufficient to undermine the activities of fossil fuel companies. It is exactly by this logic that over 300 colleges and 100 states and cities across North America are all seeking to do the same. By mobilizing on a continental scale, we are gathering substantial political momentum at negligible risk to our endowments.

The logic behind divestment is not economic, but rather political and moral. We are not divesting to force fossil fuel companies out of business. We are divesting to send a message to fossil fuel companies: that we cannot afford the destruction of our own planet and certainly will not profit off it.

Political and moral reasons for divestment do not constitute "reasons outside the market fundamentals." While we are nonpartisan and neutral with regards to economic ideology, it is important to note that a free market, by definition, implies freedom of choice, and we are merely exercising this freedom by choosing where and where not to put our money. There is no state and no authority coercing us to divest. We are doing so of our own accord—completely in line with freemarket principles.

Finally, Schnidman's advocacy of geoengineering as a means of averting climate change is extremely ironic given his assessment of the risks involved in divestment. The limited predictability and potentially devastating side effects of attempting to tweak the climate make geoengineering far riskier to the entire planet than divesting from fossil fuels could be to the college.

Our planet is reaching a critical point: a point at which the calamitous effects of climate change are set to become unavoidable. There is neither reason nor time to procrastinate. The time for divestment is now.

—Ming Chun Tang '16

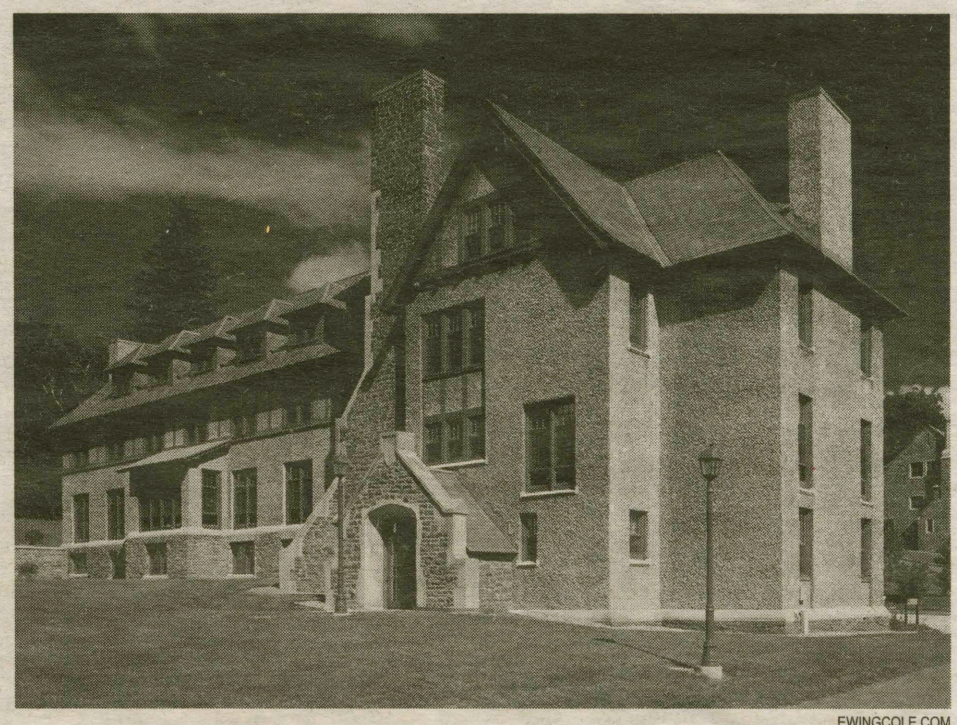
Greek life provides unique outlet

by Courtney Anderson '15
Opinion Contributor

On Monday, the Committee on Greek Recruitment distributed a report that highlighted several proposed changes to the Greek recruitment process. Most notably, the report recommends delaying the rushing and pledging periods by a semester—to first-year spring and sophomore fall respectively. The committee believes that these changes will allow first year students to properly acclimate to life at Hamilton before "making the significant commitment to membership in a Greek Organization."

While Greek recruitment will only be delayed by a semester under these recommendations, I am deeply concerned about the effects these changes might have on first-years and Greek societies as a whole. As a first-year last year, I felt as if I had "leaned in" as much as possible by participating in Adirondack Adventure, attending various club meetings and reaching out to other first-years in my dorm (South), yet I continued to feel as if I was filling my social life with a plethora of acquaintances rather than true, lifelong friends. I felt uncomfortable going to crowded Annex parties where alcohol was the primary focus and found myself sitting amongst these acquaintances wondering what to do many a weekend night. I began to wonder about transferring and even made an account on the Common Application website.

This story only began to change when someone mentioned the "fun rush events" they had been going to where they met a great group of really nice upperclassmen girls. I tagged along to these rush events and found myself making deeper connections with girls that I would never have run into on campus otherwise. The environment was welcoming and positive, not solely focused on alcohol. I continued going to these rush events, eventually deciding to pledge. Through rushing and pledging I was able to come out of my shell and for the first time at Hamilton, I felt like I was in the right place, surrounded by unique, strong peers that I knew I could depend on for support. In short, I found the best friends that I had been yearning for during most of my first semester on campus.



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The decision of 1995 converted fraternity houses into dormitories, such as Psi Upsilon House, which was modified into Skenandoa House.

With both my story and recent first year housing proposals in mind, the recommendations of the Committee on Greek Recruitment deeply concern me. In an environment where first years are both isolated in all first-year dorms and unable to rush during their first semester, I worry that many first-years could potentially be lost in the cracks and unable to find their "niche" on campus. Rushing gives quieter first years an open invitation to expand their social horizons beyond students in their classes and dorms and also to meet others that might share similar interests and attitudes. Delaying such a period will only deepen the feelings of social isolation and discomfort within those groups of first-years that have "focused on academic and athletic achievement" and "explored extracurricular activities," yet do not quickly find more meaningful friendships within the first few weeks of the semester. Delaying rush will not give first-years any more time to take part in and explore extracurricular activities because, let's be honest, every organization on campus is sure to send out emails for their first meeting within the first two weeks of classes whereas under the current framework, rushing does not typically start until the beginning of October.

In conclusion, I feel that the current recommendations not only fail to understand the time period necessary to explore extracurricular activities, but also ignore the valuable social outlet that rushing and pledging provide to first semester first-years. While my story and perspective is only one amongst many, I hope that the administration and the Board of Trustees considers the Committee's recommendations with an attentive eye, hopefully taking into consideration the student opinions presented in this article.

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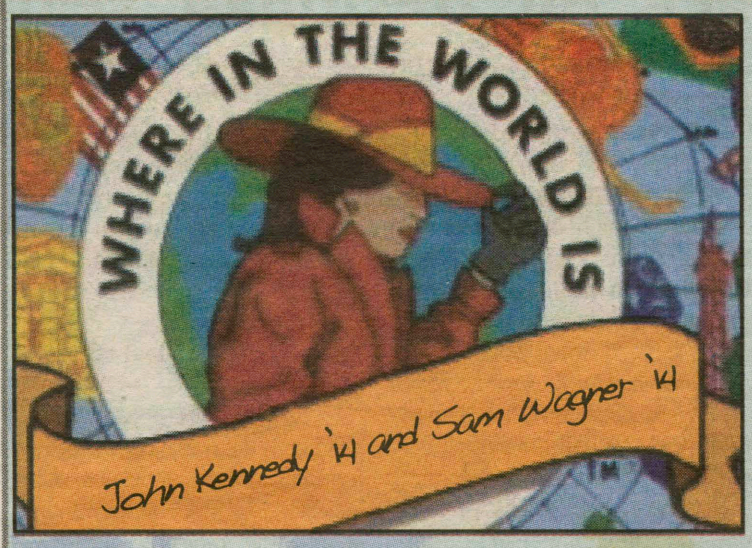

by John Kennedy '14 and Sam Wagner '14
Features Contributors

John Kennedy

I just returned from an interview with one of the top local architects in Vietnam. This meeting comes just days after I toasted rice wine with the labor union chairwoman of an impoverished ethnic minority village. Although the surroundings have always been quite unfamiliar, I still feel the same thrill of being somewhere new and enjoying the experience for all its worth.

I have spent the past four months travelling Vietnam on SIT's "Vietnam—Culture, Social Change, and Development." This program has spent time throughout the nation, visiting bustling Ho Chi Minh City, historical Hoi An, royal Hue, cultural Ha Noi, mountainous Sa Pa and gorgeous Ha Long Bay. Each area has afforded a new perspective on an amazing nation. Each has allowed me to see a separate facet of this incredible culture. I have loved every second.

Early on, we toured through the Mekong River Delta, the second largest rice-exporting area in the world, and studied among the rural poor and ethnic minorities. This component in particular focused on service learning opportunities. I helped construct a natural biogas producer that reduced women-specific household burdens and fostered environmental preservation. I studied everything about rice a human could possibly want to know (please ask me about floating seven-yield varieties next time you see me), and I took all this information back with me into some more touristy areas.

Despite the rural poverty of the Mekong Delta, one thing has been clear to see: Vietnam is a country on the edge of becoming a major world player. I have spent the majority of my time here in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon)—the center of business and the most populous city. While here, I could imagine myself being in any nation. Back-alley backpacker areas quickly yield to Taiwanese-owned skyscrapers, which flow into Phở street vendor stalls and motorbike-taxi drivers whose smiles scream, "I'm going to kidnap you."

In Ho Chi Minh City, the nine of us on this program have attempted to learn Vietnamese—a language that includes 60 different vowel pronunciations. We have studied development economics and revisionist history. We have attended Gender Studies courses that only one private university offers in Vietnam. We have listened to professors complain about their lack of academic freedom. They may only publish on government-approved subjects, and they control a mere 20 percent of their syllabi. Even these candid discussions have not been the norm in Vietnam. All BBC News channels run on a five-minute delay so that censors may black out any negative coverage of their country. Some newspapers have been manually redacted (with a Sharpie) to prevent unfavorable coverage. The Vietnamese government even banned all sales of *The Hunger Games*, because a tale of poorer districts rebelling against the wealthy District 1 didn't sit right with the terribly corrupt central government.

But now we have concluded our classes and gone our separate ways. The hallmark of any SIT program is the Independent Study Period, when students conduct their own research on their own terms. I'm currently back in Ho Chi Minh City examining for-profit urban areas in a socialist country. Today was the first day I have been completely alone. It was all going great. I checked into my hostel (into a comically small bedroom with walls that do little to block out the 7 am Edward Sharpe wake-up call) and went out to a local bar. I struck up a conversation with a few Vietnamese business students and talked to them for half an hour, i.e. how long it took them to ask me where my friends were. Luckily for this loser, I still have three weeks in one of the most dynamic cities on earth. I plan to enjoy each minute.

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Sam Wagner

When I found out that I could write 400-500 words for *The Spectator*'s "Where In The World" series I thought, "That's four to five times the amount I had to write for my 100 word platform when I ran for Senior Class President." I lost that election, so I can only imagine this will be four to five times more detrimental to my success. Let's find out.

"Vietnam is not just a country," I wrote in the first draft of this letter. But really, when you think about it, when is a country ever more than just a country? When you redefine the word country to means-something entirely different? When it invades Poland? I guess both of these. Vietnam IS just a country, but of all the countries I've been to in the last three months, it's my favorite.

I've had a great time here, there's no doubt about that, but I'm not going to fall prey to Abroad Syndrome: I haven't found myself, I do not understand the plight of the Vietnamese farmer, and I will not come back with an affinity for wearing scarves in the summer or tell you stories that hint at how much more cultured I am than you. And to say that Vietnam is the best country in the world would be, very plainly, a statement that is pugnaciously subjective and, especially in places like Cuba or Southeastern Poland, one that would be regarded as false.

So let's backtrack. I've been in Vietnam with SIT for three months now, and I can honestly say that it has been dissimilar to my past semesters in Clinton, NY. For example, though we have Vietnamese restaurants in Utica, there are no Utican restaurants in Vietnam. I tried not to take this too personally, but then I started thinking about how many items in the US say 'Made In Vietnam' and how few items say 'Made In The USA' in Vietnam. Then my mind started going around in circles angrily and aimlessly, almost exactly like the SIT logo.

I needed to blow off some steam and I was feeling homesick so I went and ordered a bacon cheeseburger at Club Vuvuzela, a Vietnamese Hooters with cheaper beer. I don't know what it was that they tried to pass off as bacon in my burger, but whatever it was, it was the last straw. I decided then and there to speak out against these injustices because, if I've learned anything from Robert McNamara, you don't need to know much about a country to insist that they're doing things the wrong way.

So, Hamilton, you want to know where I the world I am? I'll tell you. I'm in Vietgoddamn-nam*, fighting for progress.

* More specifically, I'm in the SIT office on time-out cause I 'don't play nice with others.' All in all, it's been the best semester ever.

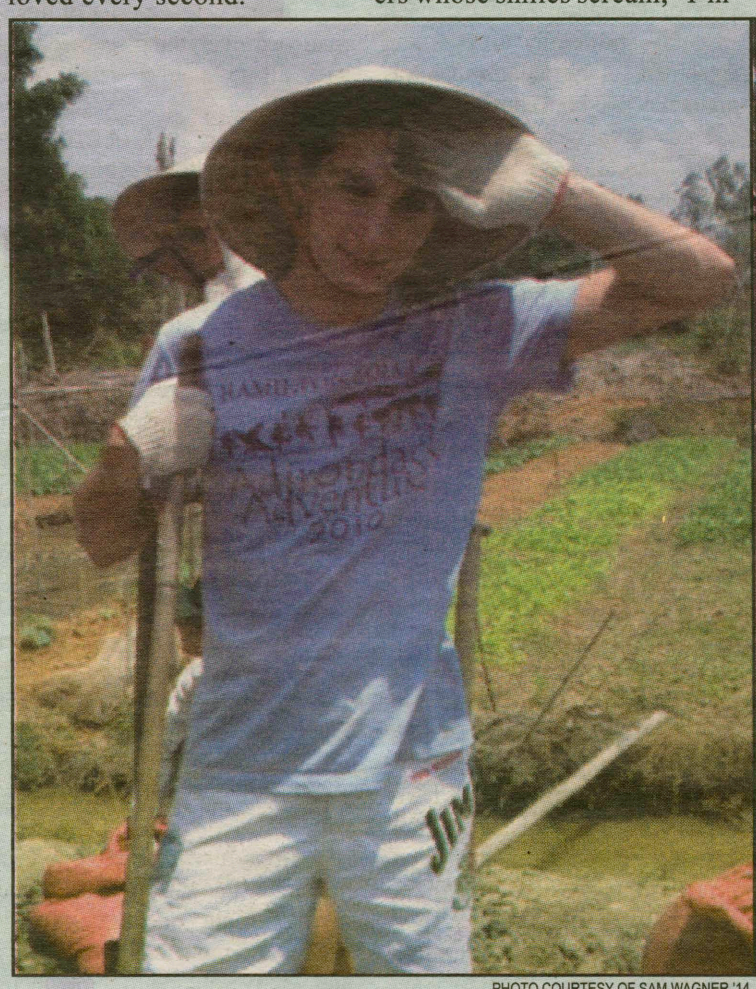


PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM WAGNER '14

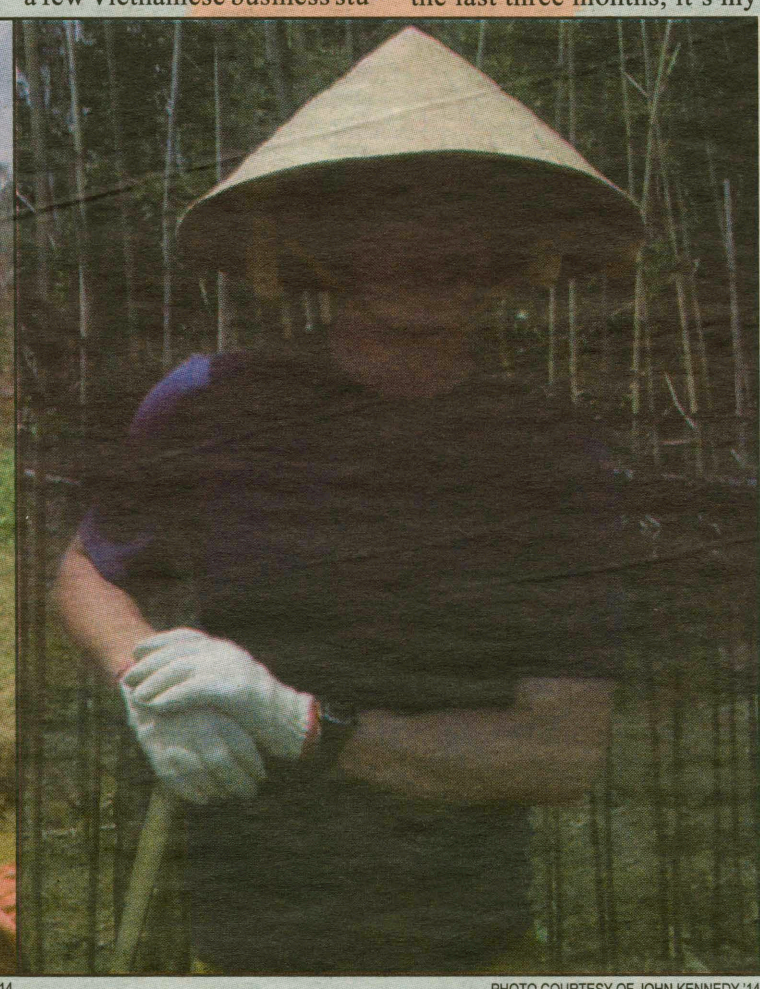


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN KENNEDY '14

Sam Wagner '14 (left) and John Kennedy '14 (right) working hard during their semester abroad in Vietnam.

Pulitzer winner Allen '63 looks back on freshman year

By Henry Allen '63
ALUMNI CONTRUBUTER

We landed at Hamilton fresh from from Planet 1959 with its cars, girls, private phones, television and movies, all the teenage entitlement that had put us at the center of American culture.

Now we found ourselves in the center of upstate New York, stripped of all those things but glad of it, at first—anachronism has an authenticity about it.

For some of us, first in our families to go to college, it was a chance to prospect for the gold of the American dream. For others, it was a chance to play sports, indulge intellectual passions or get into medical school.

For still others, many others, it was a rowdy Round Table our fathers had known and F. Scott Fitzgerald, Evelyn Waugh, James Joyce and J. P. Donleavy had written about. Did they have cars? Girls? Television? Some of us would even re-enact legends from our fathers' college days, the '20s and '30s, going down to Clinton village to buy cider that would harden into alcohol, as if Prohibition had never ended. (The cider turned to vinegar and a muck called "mother.")

We envied tales of pranks played long ago—the cow in the chapel steeple, hippopotamus footprints made in the snow with an umbrella stand. Oddly, we never came up with any of our own.

We returned to the five-and-a-half day work week that had been abolished in most of America. Under threat of expulsion, we attended Sunday night chapel services. We had to wear jackets and ties to be served dinner in Commons. We could cut classes three times in a semester. Hamilton seemed like a boarding school with beer.

There were signs of hipness—echoes of Greenwich Village or San Francisco's North Beach. Portable phonographs played Dave Brubeck's "Take Five" over and over. In Tuesday student-body meetings in the chapel, one did not applaud, one snapped one's fingers.

A few guys knew some folk riffs on guitars they tuned with a non-filtered cigarette sticking upright from the pegs, and the little joke of "Close enough for folk music." There were gloomy beards at the Emerson Literary Society. Two political factions—small ones, I suspect – had taken the sides of the French or the Algerians in their colonial war. Graffiti appeared around the campus: "OAS" and "FLN." How sophisticated and European that seemed to us as products of the Eisenhower years, well before everything in America—sexual positions, garbage disposal—was politicized.

There were still scions of gentry with their tweed sportcoats and deb party invitations, but they were losing ground to the scions of rock and roll, which had transformed young white America only five years before and created a new generation that dressed in Levis and admired vandalism. Cultural interbreeding produced students who wore tweed sportcoats with Levis and would later burn cars next to Chi Psi and push a grand piano out of a window at Psi U.

Nevertheless, the ordained ethos seemed to hark back to some halcyon 1938 or so, when Hamilton believed itself to be a tiny Oxford, a cloister preserving civilization and a modest aristocracy in the steppes of upstate New York. This belief had made Hamilton complacent, even smug, through the years, the sort of college where professors wrote no books, never changed their courses and had cute nicknames: Swampy Marsh, Noah Count, Digger Graves.

There were time-warp oddities such as the sanctioned hazing of freshmen. We were ordered to wear beanies, for instance, and to run a gauntlet every Tuesday after the campus meeting in the chapel. We filed out and the members of a sophomore cool guy society—Was Los?—would seize someone who had neglected to wear his beanie and humiliate him by hanging a toilet seat around his neck and ordering him to wear it all day.

There were the blithe cruelties of phys ed teachers—why were we all made to run a quarter mile so fast that the finish line was soaked with vomit?

Why, despite the college's advertisements for itself, did professors shun contact with students? You'd ask to join a table of them in the snack bar, and they might say "Only if you don't talk." When Thomas Clive Pinney, a professor of freshman English, was dispatched to remedy this situation and chat with us in the lounge of Dunham, a student asked him why he had chosen to teach.

He permitted himself a thin smile. "I like to win arguments," he said.

No cars, no girls, no movies, no television. There were fraternities behind whose walls lay secrets, prestige and glamor, we believed , but we weren't allowed in them during our first semester.

There was little to do for social life when the studying was done except to walk down the hill and drink at the Village Tavern, the Park Hotel or Alteri's, the drinking age being 18 then. Then we'd walk back up the hill. Other amusements included vomiting, masturbation and playing lacrosse in the hallways of Dunham dormitory, "that triumph of economics over the imagination" said one professor as he was finishing his long years of teaching 18th century literature. Rumor had it that one of his students had his father's notes from the same course, and they still worked just fine.

The campus was beautiful, with huge trees and an all-American jumble of architecture—the Gothic library, the bulky neo-classicism of Root Hall, the brown bunker called Carnegie and the casement-windowed Tudor of the Sigma Phi house.

Campus celebrities known as "hot shits" awed us. They were often personalities of the sort that Fitzgerald was talking about when he described college men "who reach such an acute limited excellence at twenty-one that everything afterward savors of anti-climax."

There was the occasional glamorous faculty member such as Jascha Kessler who published short stories and poetry, and brought his dog to class. He left the next year. There were the nervous cheekbones of Professor Austin Briggs's beautiful wife. Not having seen a female for weeks at a time (except for the cleaning women we called "harpies"), we would stare at her, maybe dream about her.

Charismatic John Baldwin led the choir and played the organ with bright-eyed, pink-cheeked rapture that argued well for the amount of drinking that was customary among WASPs back then. One sensed that a tip-serve half-gallon whiskey caddy stood on every faculty sideboard.

The administration insisted that Hamilton's archrival was Union, a college in Schenectady that no doubt had meant something in the world when upstate was a culture unto itself, with its factories and progress.

We were supposed to care deeply about the football game with Union, and share the enthusiasm of Dean Winton Tolles up in the top row of the bleachers. He'd sip attentively at a thermos and bellow "Go Blue!" so loudly that he embarrassed people. He was said to be a great man. No one said why. "Great Man" was his assigned role in the Hamilton pageant.

Of course, lurking beneath Hamilton's complacency was an inferiority complex. Had it always been there, or had it arisen as upstate New York declined and New England revived?

We knew we lacked the prestige of New England's Little Three—Amherst, Wesleyan and Williams—but we thought of ourselves as a big cut above nearby Hobart and Colgate. Tom Wolfe once referred to Hamilton as "threadneedle Ivy," after the heavy-soled faculty shoes also known as "corridor creepers."

We'd also been left behind by beatnik existentialists and their fascination with America as nightmare (as in Henry Miller's "The Air-Conditioned Nightmare,") and Europe as a dream of a place "where they really know how to live." A film society, founded a year or two later, would struggle to catch up by naming itself "Kinokunst Gesellschaft."

There was a sense of something skewed about the place, perhaps a feeling that we were being asked to live up to something that may never have existed.

One night I heard the chaplain, a fierce and glaring Scot, explain it this way: "Hamilton is everyone's second choice."

But there we were, doing our best to pretend it wasn't. We were helped by the fact that the first-rate part of Hamilton revealed itself instantly and totally to incoming freshmen—a curriculum that was an intellectual boot camp designed to show us we were not yet able to write, read, think or be worthy in any way of the civilization we were supposed to inherit.

Our English composition themes came back littered with elegant sarcasms: "Do tell," or "One trembles!" Freshman biology hammered the sentiment out of us and hammered the scientific method in. In the freshman history course we scoffed when Digger Graves and company handed out blank maps and asked us to mark the locations of various world capitals. Hadn't we learned that in junior high school? When the maps were handed back we saw we'd confused Ireland with Iceland and misplaced Moscow by 1100 miles.

We were challenged. We responded. And those who didn't respond to the challenge of writing three perfect one-page English papers were threatened with expulsion at the end of the first semester. There was something at stake beyond today's self-esteem. Except for some flunk-outs, the system produced confidence and competence and we were —and are—the better for it.

We soothed our doubts by reciting a litany of famous alumni such as the drama critic Alexander Woolcott '09, who was quoted frequently as saying that Hamilton was a small place, but there are those who love it. As it happened, it was Daniel Webster who had said that about Dartmouth in 1819.

There was B. F. Skinner '26, a father of then-fashionable behavioral psychology, noted for raising his child in a box and teaching pigeons to play ping pong. There was Sol Linowitz '35, head of Xerox and an ambassador. A Jew, he was said to have had a lonely existence at Hamilton, and even in our time a persistent anti-semitism limited the Jews in certain fraternities. Any black student was always in danger of being elected class president.

Ezra Pound '05 was a giant of 20th century literature, but he was also a fascist traitor and a loon, and he was scarcely mentioned in English classes. Though a statue of Alexander Hamilton stood on the campus, I never heard anyone talk about him either. What had he done wrong?

Elihu Root had been secretary of state under Teddy Roosevelt and sometimes one could see his descendants wandering around Clinton with the preoccupied air of aristocrats who know they're failing at something but aren't sure what. There were a number of families of that sort in Clinton.

Midwesterners thought of Hamilton as Eastern. New Englanders thought of it as Midwestern. Those who came from New York State were less puzzled, I suspect. They had grown up in the gray upstate where Hamilton hung onto its prestige by providing big frogs for small ponds—vice presidents of banks in Skaneateles or Olean or Glens Falls, say.

In that first semester of freshman year everything seemed possible, even if it never seemed quite real.

Gradually some of us discovered that Hamilton was a legend we had to create for ourselves, like all the students before us. I expect that those who knew precisely what they wanted—admission to law school, a mastery of Milton—had an easier time of it than those who were looking for a place as wondrous as Princeton was to Fitzgerald.

Why should we be happy in college anyway? As the British actor Robert Morley said: "Show me a man who has enjoyed his school days and I'll show you a bully and a bore."

I recall an unhappy Vassar girl of our era telling a psychologist, "These are supposed to be the best four years of my life."

The psychologist replied: "No—these are the worst four years of your life."

I found it wildly and perversely liberating, this neat assault on the myth of bright college years. We would have more than enough time and wintry solitude to think about whether he was right.

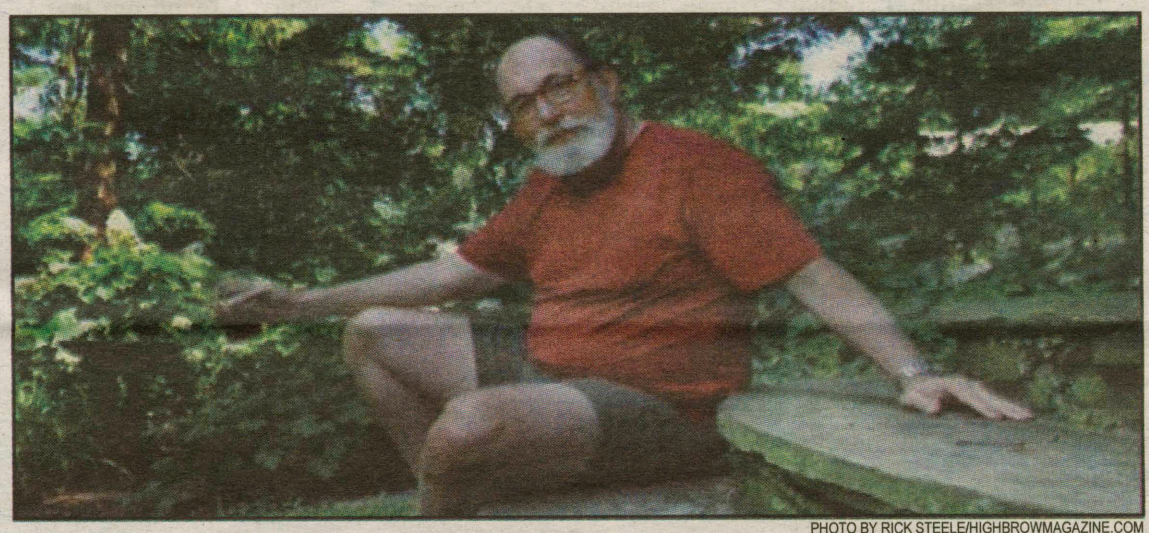
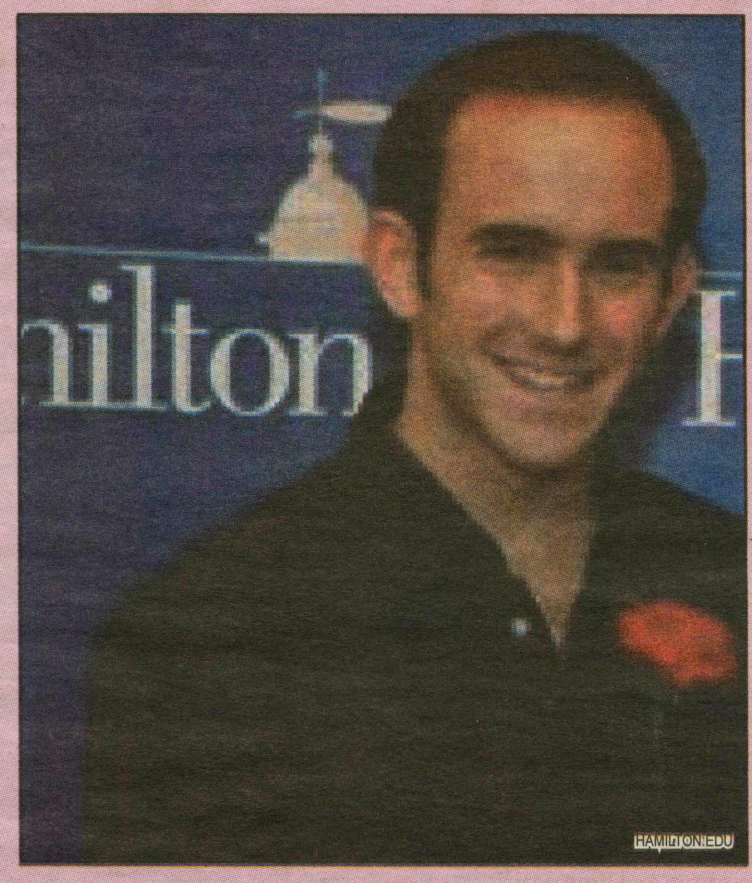


PHOTO BY RICK STEELE/HIGHBROWMAGAZINE.COM

Allen received a Pulitzer Prize for Criticism in 2000.

From Where I Sit:

Hamilton's international perspectives



By Nicolas Keller Sarmiento '13
Features Contributor

I would like to imagine that most people know what "From Where I Sit" is, but in case you're new to this section of *The Spectator*, I will fill you in. "From Where I Sit" is a column in Hamilton College's weekly newspaper, which is written (and run) solely by international students. It is a space for a minority on campus to speak out and have their voices heard. It is a space to reflect, respond and react. Students have written about the awkwardness of their first ever Halloween party, about the wonders of Adirondack Adventure friendships, about their long and unconventional roads onto the Hill and about the overall integration into college life. This column is one of the few spaces on this campus where international students' voices are heard, and is therefore essential to the exposure of the diversity on this campus. "From Where I Sit" is a tool to learn from and a pleasure to read. I would know—I ran this column since I was a first year.

For some time, *The Spectator* editors decided not to publish this column on a weekly basis, citing numerous reasons why not. Previous editors didn't want the column at all. For a long time, Barbara Britt-Hysell (Coordinator of the ESOL Program) and I argued with editors of *The Spectator* to keep this column, and the voices of international students, alive. Unfortunately, it's not published on a weekly basis, yet. Hopefully, our audience will start to realize that this column plays an essential role to the college community.

(North) American high school students realize that getting into Hamilton College is no easy feat. From APs and SATs to recommendations and interviews, the average U.S. student has plenty of hurdles to pass in order to get onto the Hill. Now remember that hectic time in your life and add onto that, a few visas, mixed with a new language and a different cuisine, throw in some cultural and social discordance, don't forget to add a crazy, bipolar Mother Nature who lets it snow in late April and finally, a sprinkle of not seeing your entire family for a year and a half. Those are a few of the many extra hurdles that international students have to cope with.

Once on the Hill, international students are praised and boasted about by the admissions department. They are always very excited to say that, apparently, 40 countries are currently represented in the student body. But after that, what happens to those international students? Who ever hears from them apart from the random information piece on the MyHamilton news feed? These are the moments when outlets like "From Where I Sit" become important so that the campus community can embrace that diversity that is so highly praised by the institution, and learn from it. Our diversity is our strength, not our weakness; and as such, why should anyone shun a text that analyses a worldly perspective on a local occurrence? "From Where I Sit" provides the campus with an international perspective that is not repeated anywhere else.

On a more personal note, I can assure you that any "From Where I Sit"writer remembers the exact first article they wrote, and how proud they were to make the school paper. I remember I was thrilled! I even sent my parents a copy of *The Spectator* all the way to Argentina so they could see what their son wrote. I remember that the week my first essay was out, some people who work at the diner started asking me about Argentina, because they had read my article. Writing for "From Where I Sit" provides the international student body with a sense of acceptance and of belonging.

"From Where I Sit" is one of the few things that we, international students have—please support this column and encourage other to do so as well. "From Where I Sit" was the vessel through which my Hamilton voice was first heard. Help us keep that voice alive.

"From Where I Sit" is a column dedicated to the international voices of Hamilton's campus. If you are an international student and are interested in contributing a column, contact Barbara Britt-Hysell (bbritthy@hamilton.edu).

Challah for Hunger: secret recipe revealed

By Emma Laperruque '14 and Victoria Lin '15
Features Editor and Features Contributor

While many people call summer "bathing suit season," here at Challah for Hunger, we like to think of it as "bread season." After all, when you don't "knead" to do homework, why not "loaf" around in the kitchen? Just follow this recipe step by step and we (can almost) guarentee your buns will be as cute as ours! Here is the base recipe, from which we create all our original flavors each week. Sorry to say we're still keeping the variation details secret, because, let's be real, we have to keep some *tricks up our oven mitts. Happy baking, till we meet again!*

Adapted from Smitten Kitchen, who adapted from Joan Nathan

Yield: 12 small loaves

- 1 1/2 tablespoons active dry yeast
- 1 tablespoon + 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup olive or vegetable oil, plus more for greasing the bowl
- 5 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 7 to 8 cups all-purpose flour

In a large bowl, dissolve yeast and 1 tablespoon sugar in 1 3/4 cups lukewarm water.

Whisk oil into yeast, then beat in 4 eggs, one at a time, with remaining sugar and salt. Gradually add flour. When dough holds together—generally after the fourth cup of flour—it is ready for kneading.

Turn dough onto a floured surface and knead until smooth. (We knead in the bowl, but do what works for you.) Clean out bowl and grease it with oil, then return dough to bowl. Cover with plastic wrap, and let rise in a warm place for 1 hour, until almost doubled in size.

Punch down the dough and refrigerate for at least two and up to 24 hours.

Divide the dough into 12 equally sized blobs. Take one blob, divide in half, and roll/pinch each half until it is a strand six or so inches long. (If you want to fill your challah with add-ins like chocolate chips or nuts, create a divot down the center of the strand, press in your add-ins, and then pinch the strands closed.) Criss-cross the two strands so they're twisted up like a cheese straw, then coil this "braid" into a circle like a shell, tucking the end underneath. Repeat with remaining blobs.

Beat remaining egg and brush it on loaves.

If baking immediately, preheat oven to 375 degrees and brush loaves again.

Bake on a parchment-lined baking sheet, in middle of oven, for about 25 minutes, or until golden.

PHOTO BY VICTORIA LIN '15

Top left: "Dream Team," peanut butter challah with chocolate chips. Top right: "My Big Fat Greek Challah," olive oil-based challah with spinach and feta. Bottom left: "Focaccia," olive oil-based challah with rosemary and sea salt. Bottom right: "Hot Cocoa," cocoa-based challah with chocolate chips and broiled marshmallow topping. Center: "Liz Lemon," lemon zest-challah with poppy seed crust and lemon curd center.

Tegeder talks about first solo show

by Eunice Lee '16
ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CONTRIBUTOR

Last October, the new Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art opened its glass doors to the Hamilton community for the first time. The Wellin's inaugural exhibit, called "Affinity Atlas," featured artists like Vik Muniz and Chris Doyle, who spoke at the museum last month.

This month, the museum will introduce a new exhibit by Dannielle Tegeder. Tegeder is an abstract painter based in New York City, who is currently an Associate Professor at Lehman College in the City University of New York.

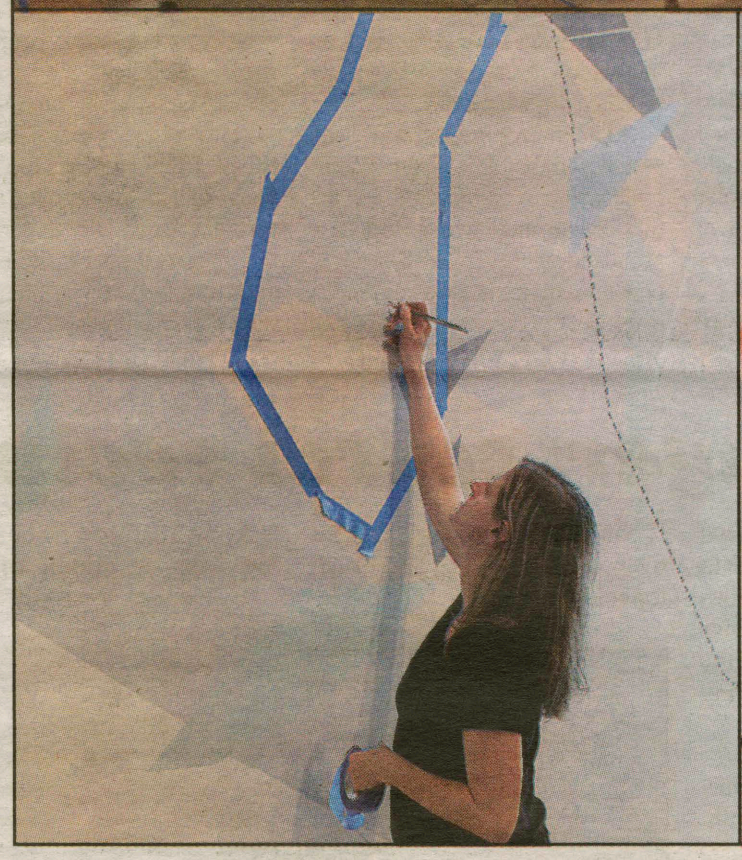
Her exhibit, entitled "Painting in the Extended Fields," will be her first solo museum exhibition. It will showcase multiple paintings, drawings, sound and animation projects, poems and sculptures completed over the years, as well as recent pieces created for the Wellin.

A key feature of Tegeder's installation is a 17-foot high wall drawing that Hamilton and Pratt MWP art students are helping Tegeder put together. I had the great opportunity of contributing to this drawing.

The first time I went to it, I traced small circles over a sketched line using a stencil. Another time, I taped around and painted matte medium on a series of blocked out lines that shot up and down a wall. This was a rather uneasy experience for me, as I was wearing a skirt and standing on a ladder twice my height. I said that I was not scared of heights, but there is no denying that I had a lot of trouble holding onto the tape with my sweaty hands.

On the whole I contributed very little to the project. However, the opportunity of working on a project with a team of professional artists was incredibly rewarding. More than anything, the few days I spent at the museum reignited my love for art and design.

It is not everyday that you can talk to and work with a professional artist, who has shown pieces in numerous museums around the world. In addition to helping complete the wall drawing, I had the fortune of sitting down with Dannielle Tegeder to talk about her upcoming exhibit and involvement with the Wellin Museum.



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA LIN '15

"Painting in the Extended Fields," opening Sunday, being installed by Hamilton students.

Eunice Lee: How did you get an installation at Wellin? Were you approached by the museum to do an installation?

Dannielle Tegeder: The Wellin did approach me. Tracy Adler, who is the founding director, has curated my work and known my work over the past 10 years. So when she became the founding member and curator, she offered me [the installation]. It's significant for me because this is my first solo museum exhibition. It's nice to work with someone who has such a background with my work, because it includes so many materials and so many projects.

EL: What was your inspiration behind the wall drawing?

DT: My inspiration conceptually, I look at a lot of mechanical plans, architectural plans; I think of these as fictional cities. So it's almost like a fictional city urban plan. My personal inspiration, you know my family are all steamfitters, and what that means is that I grew up with my uncles, father and cousins all doing industrial heating and plumbing in New York City. So they'd be on a building for 2-3 years working on these extensive systems that move through architecture, and the wonderful thing about that is that all of this was hand-drawn. So, it's like an architectural drawing; they're blueprints, they're beautiful drawings. Of course, these are all done on computers, but growing up, I uh, I thought I would be a steamfitter. That plan changed a bit when I was about thirteen. I realized that there were not that many girl steamfitters.

EL: You could have been the first.

DT: Yeah, I could have been the first. Thank God I'm not. So there's kind of a personal inspiration, but also I have a very extensive interest in architecture and urban planning and systems.

EL: From what I saw, there was a lot of green, black and metallics. Could you tell me about your color choices?

DT: I originally thought about just doing it in black and white, which is much more plan-like. When you look out that window, you see green. So it automatically inserted itself into the palette. So I decided to start including it.

EL: Why did you decide to have Hamilton students participate in creating your wall drawing?

DT: I love having students participate for a number of reasons. First of all, I'm an educator; I've been a professor for ten years. I'm very involved with my students already, so I like that interaction. The second thing is that when you're usually a studio-based artist, you're alone in your studio. That's a very quiet, almost isolating experience. When you come into a space to do a wall drawing, a lot of things happen. Because you're dealing with the whole museum, you're dealing with the location, the people that live there, the people who work in the museum.

This kind of interaction is something you never have in a studio. As an artist, you hang your work in a gallery; you're usually not there (except for your opening). So you just don't have this dialogue that happens. It's always interesting to me, because you have a dialogue across many different people, like the guards or students here, people that I wouldn't necessarily be in dialogue with.

EL: What kind of impact do you think your installation will have on the Hamilton community? Or, at least, what do you hope to achieve?

DT: Thinking back to when I was in undergraduate school, I thought that artists were dead before they're famous, or before they can have a career. For me, what I would like them to take from it is that they can be an artist if this is their dream; you can be an artist and show and be alive and sustain yourself. It's an option for you.

I also think exposing people to different types of artwork is important. I hope they come with an openness, even if they don't know a lot about work, to have a different experience on how you look at the world. I hope that they come with an openness to have a different experience other than a just realistic picture.

I tell this to my students, and I would tell this to the public: wipe your mind clean of everything that you think art is about, and what art can be, before you come.

Setlist and Photos: WHCL's Campus Bands Showcase

Bolivian Dark
(Jake Nevius, Rico Welch, Will Robertson, Austin Durham)

Luke Gernart & Matt Sweeney
"Isis"
–Bob Dylan
"House of the Rising Sun"
–The Animals
"Shivers"
–Divine Fits
"Dead Leaves and the Dirty Ground"
–The White Stripes

The Nice Guys
(Michael Berrios, Gabriel Rivas, Ryan Glenn)
"Heart Shaped Box"
–Nirvana
"Brain Stew"
–Green Day
"Discern"
–Original by Michael Berrios

Cliff & Nick's Unhinged Carnival Spectacular
"Saw Her Standing There"
–The Beatles
"Don't Worry Baby"
–The Beach Boys
"I Want to Be Your Boyfriend"
–The Ramones
"Hey Hey, My My (Into The Black)"
–Neil Young

Emma Wilkinson & Danny Ingraham
All original songs:
"Believe"
"Unwind"
"I Wanna Fall In Love With You"

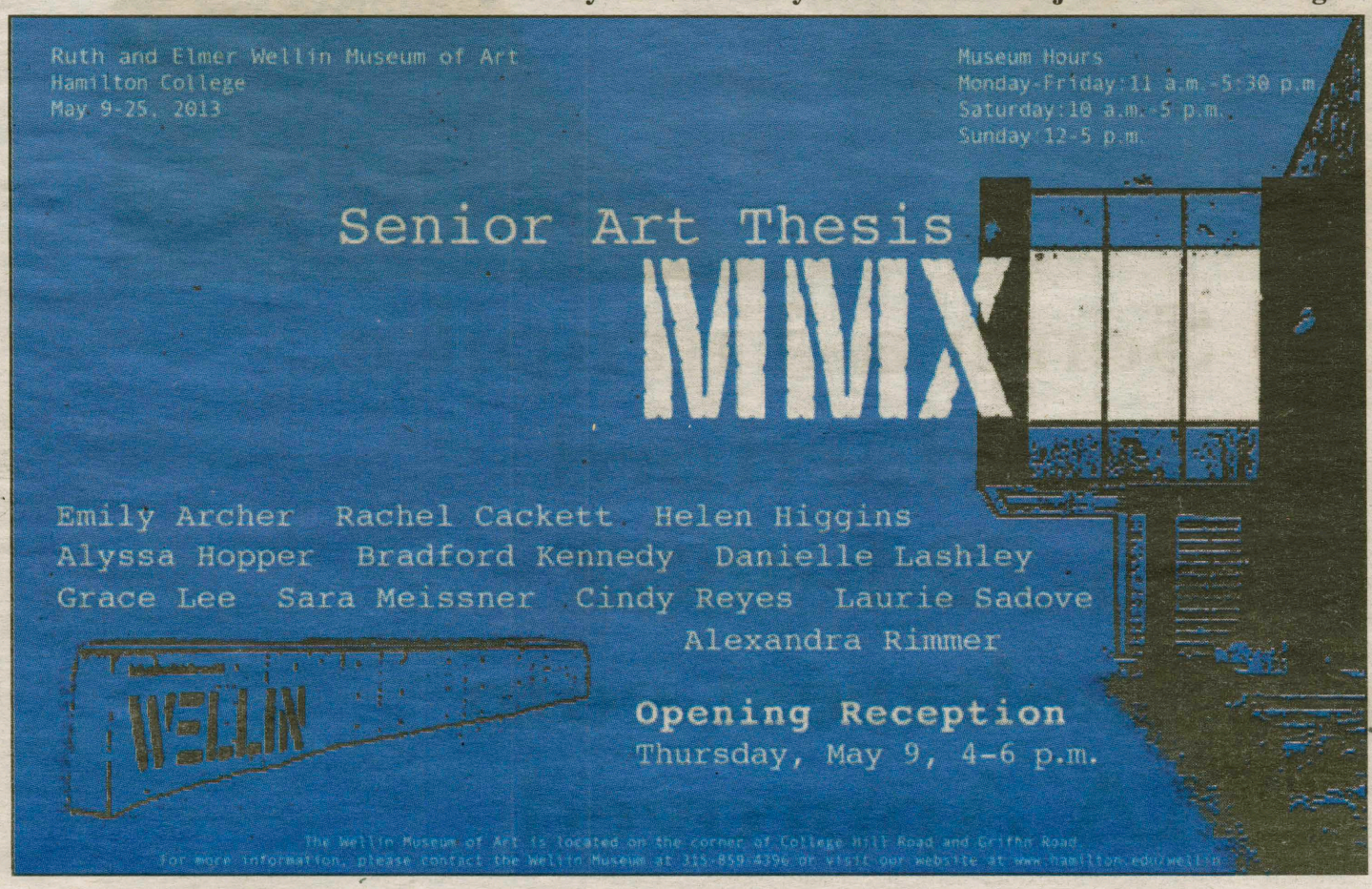
The Late Greats
(Dan Knishkowy, Ian Rothenberg, George Taliaferro, Jason Wilkin, Chelsea Wahl)
"Almost Everyday"
"Moon So Tall"
"Adeline Hotel"
–Originals
"Chicago"
–Sufjan Stevens

PHOTOS BY ELIZABETH COMATOS '15

Student musicians gathered to grill and play tunes on a warm Sunday.

Cliff Yu '13 and Nick Sylvester '13 swapped instruments several times, then Emma Wilkinson '16 played a set of originals with Danny Ingraham '16.

Chelsea Wahl '13 sang with The Late Greats, who played original songs written by Dan Knishkowy '13 and covered Sufjan Stevens's "Chicago."


Ruth and Elmer Wellin Museum of Art
Hamilton College
May 9-25, 2013
Museum Hours
Monday-Friday: 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday: 12-5 p.m.
Senior Art Thesis
MMX
Emily Archer Rachel Cackett Helen Higgins
Alyssa Hopper Bradford Kennedy Danielle Lashley
Grace Lee Sara Meissner Cindy Reyes Laurie Sadove
Alexandra Rimmer
WELLIN
Opening Reception
Thursday, May 9, 4-6 p.m.
The Wellin Museum of Art is located on the corner of College Hill Road and Griffin Road
For more information, please contact the Wellin Museum at 315-859-4396 or visit our website at www.hamilton.edu/wellin

WHCL CORNER

Show Profile: *ROCK214: Topics in Rock History*

Monday, 3 p.m.

with

Jack McManus '13

Sounds Like:

A weekly lesson on the history of rock and roll, touching on topics that range from rock's precursor genres to current trends in popular music.

Expect to hear:

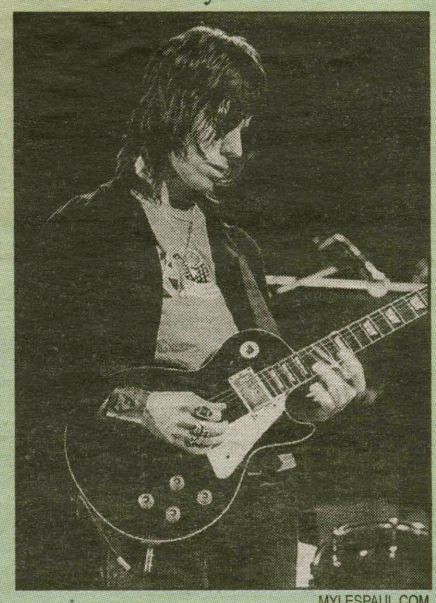
A relatively balanced mix of music and talk, with discussion topics like rock's greatest guitarists, The Beatles, Motown, psychedelic rock and more.

What song do you love (or love to hate) in the Diner Jukebox?

"Beck's Bolero" by Jeff Beck, which he recorded with Keith Moon (The Who), Jimmy Page and John Paul Jones (Led Zeppelin) and frequent Rolling Stones guest Nicky Hopkins.
Also Mariah Carey's "Always Be My Baby," because obviously.

This song goes out to...

Anyone who can name every member of Pink Floyd.



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Crew looks for stroke of success in upcoming ECACs

by Ben Fields '15
Sports Editor

In a season plagued by injuries and fraught with cold, the Hamilton men's and women's crew team was excited to hit the water in the warmth this past weekend. Heading to Lake Whitney to compete in the New York State Collegiate Championships, Hamilton looked to bag some wins at the end of their season. The women's tournament featured some of the best crew teams in the country, including the second ranked team in the nation, William Smith, while on the men's side the top teams included St. Lawrence University and the U.S. Military Academy.

The men's team faced stiff competition from the other New York schools at Whitney Point, but was still able to find its stride in several of the races. Placing second in the second varsity eight petite final on Sunday, the Conts were just 0.78 seconds behind the winning team from Army. With Jaime Leiva-Cabrera '14 at coxswain, the team pushed through to hold their own over some impressive teams. Although it was a tough weekend for the Continentals, finishing 10th overall, they still had some impressive races, including a sixth-place finish in the novice four final. The team of Jack Cavanaugh '16, Marc Horschman '16, Ronald Sprague '16, Russ DeGrazia '15 and Alec Melone '16 improved by almost ten seconds from Saturday to Sunday. While they would have liked to do better, the men's crew team has the upcoming ECAC Invitational in Worcester, MA on Sunday to prove their strength.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

The women's second varsity eight took fourth place and beat St. Lawrence by 0.20 seconds last weekend.

On the women's side, Hamilton's varsity eight took sixth with a time of 7:06.89. The second varsity eight had a strong showing with a fourth-place time of 7:24.31, just nudging out St. Lawrence University by 0.20 seconds. The third varsity eight final gave the Conts a chance to show what they are made of with a solid third place finish, and a time of 7:42.43. With good weather on the horizon, the women gear up for the final race of the season at Worcester on Saturday.

> **"No one individual has stood out because everyone has contributed and made us better."**
> *—Coach Eric Summers*

This has been one of the coldest seasons for the Hamilton crew teams, and they have suffered significantly in terms of practicing because of this. Coach Eric Summers said, "Despite all of that, the team handled the spring really well." In a sport that is so dependent on the whims of the weather, it is never easy when the Erie Canal doesn't thaw until the second week of April. But as Coach Summers said, "This is truly a team. No one individual has stood out because everyone has contributed and made us better." This teamwork will no doubt lead to a promising last weekend coming up at ECACs.

In a sport dictated by mere seconds, the Continentals have nowhere to go but up in their invitational next weekend. Hamilton looks to finish the season on a high note after facing adversity all year.

Track & field teams place 10th at New York State Championships

by Sterling Xie '15
Sports Writer

While both the Hamilton men and women's track teams finished 10th out of 11 teams at the New York State Championships last weekend, several noteworthy individual performances represented the Conts well.

On the women's side, Hannah Javien '14 was the lone Hamilton athlete to place first in an event, winning the pole vault with a height of 3.45 meters. Javien finished third in the NESCAC championships the previous week. Additionally, Agne Jakubauskaite'13, Rachel Cackett '13 and Hannah Kloeckner '14 all qualified for the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships the weekend of May 16. Jakubauskaite finished fifth in the high jump with a height of 1.58 meters, while Kloeckner and Cackett finished sixth and eighth respectively in the 10K meter race.

> **"If we continue to work and train hard then everyone will see the results that reflect our effort."**
> *—Hannah Javien '14*

Jakubauskaite has high expectations for herself looking towards the ECAC DIII Championships. She said that while it will likely be her last collegiate-level competition, "it would be really nice to finish the season on a high note ... because I am less than an inch away from the school record."

Coach Ellen Hull notes how favorable conditions, while putting Hamilton at an overall disadvantage, propelled many members of the team to either seasonal or personal bests. "Almost everyone this weekend exceeded their times from most of the meets this season," said Hull. "We had pretty ideal weather conditions and the athletes seized the opportunity."

On the men's side, top performances included junior Will Tifft's 45.65-meter effort in the hammer throw and fellow junior Matthew Peterfreund's sixth place finish in the javelin throw with 48.34 meters. Additionally, Sam Reider '14 sprinted to second place in the 400-meter dash with a time of 49.53 seconds. The junior trio will represent Hamilton at the ECACs, though first-year Andrew Mandelbaum '16 came up just 1.3 seconds shy of joining them in the 800-meter race.

Qualifying for the ECAC championships is always a primary goal for the track & field athletes as it provides a tremendous opportunity to showcase one's seasonal and career progression. Though they will no longer compete as a team, the athletes traveling to Springfield College next week will seek more personal hardware and bragging rights. For track veterans Javien and Reider, the expectations are extremely high.

"I hope to break the school record," Reider boldly proclaimed. "I hope I get to end up competing, since the meet takes place during finals week, but I expect to do my best if I go there."

Similarly, Javien hopes not only to perform well next weekend, but also to potentially prolong her career by an additional meet. "I am very eager to compete at ECAC's," she admitted. "I haven't qualified for the ECAC championships since my freshman year in 2011, so I have very high expectations to do well. It would be a great accomplishment to place and represent Hamilton honorably. But my goal is still to qualify for the NCAA championship. I am so close and I know I'm capable of meeting that goal."

While neither team was able to break through in the NESCAC this year, attrition from injuries accounted for many of the teams' struggles this season. Still, the solid performances by underclassmen, many of whom just missed qualifying for the ECACs, give the Hamilton track program reason to look forward to even stronger results in future seasons.

"We had a rough season with lots of injuries," admitted Reider. "But everything seemed to come together at the end. Will Tifft had a huge weekend in the hammer. And I think the future looks bright for the team with a couple of standout freshmen in Andrew Mandelbaum and James Bryan."

The consistent effort of the younger members of the women's team bode well as the team's talent matures with experience. "As far as the team goes, everyone worked really hard this past season and put in a lot of effort," said Javien. "I believe if we continue to work and train hard then everyone will see the results that reflect our effort."

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Will Tifft '14 had a strong performance in last weekend's championships.

HAMILTON SPORTS

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

The Spectator *takes a look back at the spring sports season on the Hill. Finishing an impressive season, these athletes look forward to taking a well deserved break.*

Women's Softball defeated Amherst 13-7 on the road, April 6.

Men's Lacrosse beat Conn. College 5-4 at home, April 13.

Women's golf placed 2nd at the Le Moyne Invitational, April 13-14.

Women's crew came in 1st place in the Gilman Plate & Cup in Schenectady, NY, April 6.

Women's tennis shut out Union 9-0 at home, April 22.

Women's lacrosse outscored Bowdoin 10-9 in the NESCAC Championship Quarterfinal, April 27.

Baseball beat No. 1 Wesleyan 7-6 on the road, March 30.

Men's crew placed 1st at Stetson in DeLand, FL, March 23.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY, HAMILTON ATHLETICS, JOSH MCKEE, AND KATIE STEATES '15

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
May 9, 2013

Women's lax falls in NESCAC quarterfinal

by Patrick English '15
Sports Writer

For the women's lacrosse team, reaching the NESCAC semifinals in their second year competing in the most competitive conference in Division III is a respectable achievement in and of itself. The Continentals accomplished just that last week, upsetting third-seeded and No. 8 Bowdoin (13-3, 8-2 NESCAC) with a final score of 10-9 on April 27.

The win over Bowdoin set up a pivotal match with undefeated Trinity (17-0, 10-0 NESCAC), the defending champion team of both the NESCAC and the NCAA, not to mention the number one team in the nation. The Bantams had already defeated Hamilton 8-4 on April 20 at Steuben Field this season. Despite this defeat, Hamilton's defense was strong in this game, holding Trinity to its fewest goals in a game all season.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TRINITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

Hamilton fights to regain possession of the ball in Saturday's game vs. Trinity.

During the game against Trinity, Shea Kusiak '14 put up two unassisted goals in the first four minutes of the game to open up an early lead for the Bantams. Hamilton's Kathryn Maiorano '14 soon countered with a goal in the fifth minute on an assist by Lauren Brady '14. After a foul, Rachel Friedman '13 tied the score to two apiece with a goal from a free position shot in the tenth minute. However, this early success for the Continentals would not last long.

Over the next 17 minutes, Trinity responded with a barrage of seven unanswered goals, including two from Megan Leonhard '13, putting the game out of reach at 9-2. Turnovers were especially important during this part of the game, as Trinity capitalized on a Hamilton turnover for each goal. In comparison, the Continentals failed to take advantage of six Bantam turnovers in the first half. However, first-year Caroline McCarthy eased the pain of the seven-goal lead with a goal two minutes before halftime on an assist from Friedman.

In the second half, Trinity's Megan Leonhard '13 scored her third goal of the game on an assist from sophomore Molly Cox to bring the Bantam's lead of seven goals back to the scoreboard. Despite Trinity's large lead, Hamilton did not give up throughout the second half. Two goals from Katie D'Antonio '14, and one each from McCarthy and Ashleigh Stephan '15 in the second brought Hamilton's total to seven.

However, Trinity's strong offense was too much for the Conts as they scored four goals in the second half to win 13-7. Pivotal parts of the game included ground balls, which Trinity controlled 19-10, as well as shots on goal, in which Trinity had a controlling 27-12 advantage throughout the game. Hamilton goalie Dewi Caswell '14 stopped nine of these shots, but the Trinity offense proved too much as thirteen of them found the back of the net.

Trinity completed their defense of the NESCAC title with a 8-7 overtime win against No. 3 Middlebury in the championship game. The Bantams earned the top seed in the NCAA tournament and will face Montclair State in the first round on Wednesday, May 8.

Despite the loss, Hamilton's lacrosse team can hold their heads high after a 9-8 season (4-4 NESCAC) against tough competition that resulted in a NESCAC semifinal appearance for the second straight year. They also finished the season ranked No. 17 in the nation. With only four graduating seniors, the team is primed for another successful season next spring.

Offbeat Athlete: Pete McGraw '14 takes to the ring

by Sirianna Santacrose '15
Sports Editor

Like most Hamilton students, junior Pete McGraw makes an effort to get to the gym several times a week. However, unlike most students, he first has to drive 20 minutes off campus to New Hartford's Mohawk Valley Mixed Martial Arts & Fitness Center before he can begin his training routine, which can last anywhere from three to six hours long.

McGraw trains at Mohawk Valley MMA six times a week to stay in shape for competitions every couple of months. He competes against members of other gyms who also train in Mixed Martial Arts, which include a combination of kick boxing, jiu jitsu and wrestling. Recently, McGraw won a fight in Binghamton, which brought his current competitive fight record to an impressive 4-0 for this year. He also currently holds the title of CNY Battleground 165 lb. Champion, a local regional promotion.

McGraw, surprisingly, has not been doing MMA his whole life. He grew up playing sports like football and basketball and was a member of the Hamilton men's lacrosse team last year. McGraw had no interest in MMA until his freshman year at the College of Charleston, from which he transferred to Hamilton in 2012.

It was at Charleston that his close friend and resident advisor, who wrestled in high school, encouraged McGraw to join him at the local MMA gym and to follow wrestling competitions on television. After a lot of coaxing, McGraw finally agreed to find out more about what his friend did in his free time. To his surprise, he fell in love with the sport and immediately started training. After that, "the rest is history."

> **"[MMA] is the most pure form of competition I've ever been involved in."**
> *—Pete McGraw '14*

After transferring to Hamilton, McGraw not only joined the local Mixed Martial Arts Center, but he also revamped the on-campus MMA club after its former head graduated last year. Each week, he trains several Hamilton students, some of whom join him at the New Hartford gym from time to time.

Though some people compete at the amateur level of MMA just for the fun of it and to get in shape, McGraw's commitment to the sport is a much more serious one. To prepare for each fight, he takes part in eight weeks of "fight camp." MMA athletes preparing for an upcoming fight will often do two-a-day practices during the first seven weeks, followed by higher intensity workouts during the last week in order to meet their fight weight.

McGraw emphasized that "since it takes that long to prepare and cut weight, one fight every few months is usually all we can do." Having played seasonal sports like lacrosse and football in the past, McGraw added that training for MMA competitions is unique because "there is no off season."

McGraw said that he enjoys doing MMA because "it is the most pure form of competition I've ever been involved in." He also likes that while the sport is based on an individual's training and performance, the other members of his team at the gym have been a consistent support group. Additionally, McGraw said, "My coach is like a second dad to me."

Although several important coaches in the MMA division have told him that he has a promising future in the sport, McGraw has other career goals. "I want to go to law school and be a defense attorney," he said. However, he may look into coaching on the side as a way to stay involved in the sport after college.

Based on his success thus far, it would come as no surprise if McGraw learns to lock down cases in the courtroom just as he has his competitors in the wrestling ring.

If you are interested in joining the MMA club on campus, contact Pete McGraw at jmcgraw@hamilton.edu.

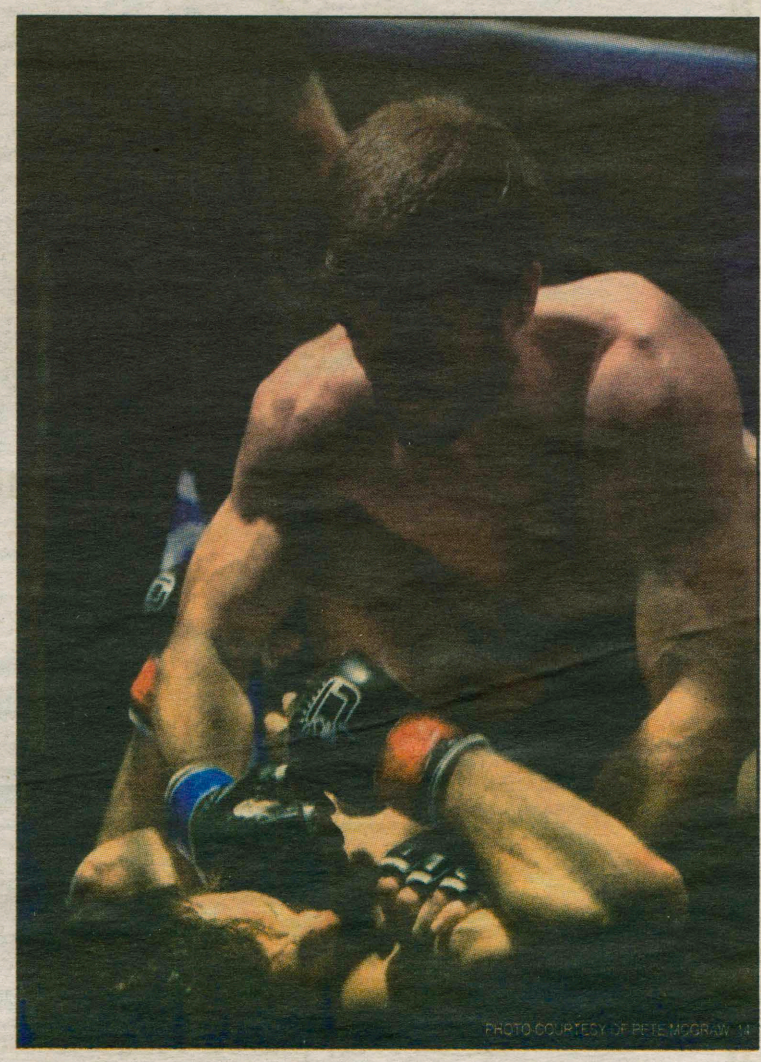

PHOTO COURTESY OF PETE MCGRAW '14

Pete McGraw '14 currently holds the CNY Battleground 165 lb. Champion title and has a record of four wins and zero losses.